THE EXCITER

Published Free of Charge Monthly by The San Antonio Radio Club. Regular Meetings are Held First and Third Friday's of Each Month, Gunter Hotel. Visitors Always Welcome.

Vol. 1, No. 9 DECEMBER, 1958 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

VHF AND UP

During November the 50 mc Band was wide open to almost all parts of the world for as long as 12 hours per day here in San Antonio! Some of the countries could well be listed in the DX column as being rare.

W5VY made WAC by corraling JA8EX after waiting a year for Asia. Pat is now up to 24 countries and may well be leading the US on 50 mc. K5GEH has 14 countries and needs Africa for WAC. W5JLY and W5-HFF need Japan for WAC.

A recap lists the following stations worked or heard by W5VY, K5GEH, K5HVC, K5OOJ, WFHFF, W5EXZ, W5KRH, W5LFM, and others: HB9-QQ, VO2HA, KL7AUV, SM6ANR, SMoBTT, SM7ZN, CT1CO, KH6UK, JA6FR, SM7BAE, HB9RG, E12W, JA2EK, JA1ASO, JA8EX, JA8HB, VE7AQQ, VE1OD, VE1BB, SM4BIU and LA4FE. Others have been worked crossband 6/10 by W5VY.

The following areas and stations come in generally at these times: 0700-1300 CST, European TV and 50 mc; 0900-1500, So. America IGY Beacons; 1100-1800, Yellowknife, NWT, Beacon on 49.99 mc; 1300-1800, Alaska 50 mc; 1700-1900, Japan 50 mc.

A recent 50 mc DX record was set from CT3 to JA via the long way for 17,400 approximate great circle miles. The path included transequatorial, back-scatter and F2, too!

The present 50 mc activity is interesting in that 2 hop F2 work of 5,-7,000 miles calls for a reflecting layer to be at 600-900 KM. The classical F2 layer is at 200-500 KM.

A strong hint is given to the local rag chewers to stay away from the low edge of 50 mc. Some countries are back on Six only because of the IGY and have to operate on the low edge. But with 40 chunks available to us, don't use the first 100 kcs to yak a few blocks away. Please get up in the band or use the Bell System. There's plenty of DX for all to work if you listen. Give everybody a break, including yourself. Remember—this is the highest sunspot activity expected in the next 200 years. It's later than you think! Good hunting and DX.

Cal, W5LFM

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This is the last chance we will have to tell you about the Christmas Party, which will consist of Dinner and Dance at Shadowland on Dec. 20th. The dinner will be served promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Each person attending is requested to bring a gift of some kind, not to exceed a couple of dollars, but something that is useful to a ham, or if you are an XYL, bring something for an XYL. If you want to bring something as a joke to someone, you may bring that also.

There will also be a special drawing for a man and one for a woman, and a nice prize given to the winners.

This is always one of the highlight events of the year for the hams in San Antonio. It gives the old hams a chance to recount some old memories, and it gives the newer hams a chance to get acquainted with everyone.

For the ladies who don't live and breathe Ham Radio, we feel sure they will enjoy the food, the music, and an evening full of entertainment.

So, we are looking forward to seeing all the young and "the young at heart" at Shadowland on the 20th.

Tickets are available at Radio &

T.V. Parts Co., Modern Radio, Perry Shankle, and also at the radio club. The price is $3.25 each, and please get them early, so we will know about how many people to prepare for. Reservations must be made not *later than Dec. 13th.*

PROGRAMS

Bill Case will have charge of the program for Dec. 5th. Among other things, his program will consist of a discussion on new developments in Hi Fi; circuit wise and economy-wise. Bill should be one of the most qualified people in this area, on this subject. He is a broadcast engineer, an old time ham, member of the I R E, and numerous other organizations. There is just a chance he will have some of that fine equipment that he sells there to demonstrate to us. He is in the Radio, T.V. and HI-FI sales business located on Broadway.

The program on Dec. 19, will consist of three technical films. One film is of about 7 minutes duration, about the Nike ground to air guided missile. One will be about the development and uses of the Bell Solar Battery, and will last about 15 minutes. The third one will be about the discovery, development, etc. of the transistor. These films are shown as a courtesy of Bell Telephone Co.

The club now has a 16 mm sound projecture that was put in excellent condition by John Breitler W5CTL, at a great sacrifice in time on his part. We owe him a big vote of thanks for his work on this project.

DOOR PRIZES

There were two door prizes given away at the meeting on Nov. 7. These prizes were donated by Modern Radio, and consisted of two call books. They were won by Allen K5PVI and Ed W5GUR.

The door prizes for the meeting on Nov. 21 consisted of two Ham Registers, and were donated by Radio & T.V. Parts Co.

These companies have been very gracious in their donations and considerate in their advertising in our paper, so let's patronize them whenever we need parts and equipment. Without their help and consideration, we would not be able to bring this paper to so many Hams.

So, to Paul and Marion, thanks a million, fellows. The door prizes sure are appreciated, and well received.

SPORTS CAR RACES

The San Antonio Radio Club has been asked by the Sports Car Club, to furnish the communications for the races to be held at the Hondo Air Force Base Dec. 6-7.

Anyone wishing to participate should get in touch with Gene Jank just as soon as possible as he is coordinating the radio and telephone communications for them. His phone no. is DI 2-2225. This should prove very exciting for one and all.

We have worked with them before on road rallies, etc., and have enjoyed every outing that we participated in.

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MOBILE

The November transmitter hunt held by The San Antonio Radio Club was won by George W5VPQ, with Gene W5EJT coming in second, and Theo W5OZQ coming in third. Other hunters were W5FND, W5FAR, K5-ABL.

There will be no transmitter hunt in Dec. as the S.A.R.C. will be participating in the sport car races to be held in Tondo, Texas, on Dec. 6-7.

Mobiles back on 75 are Jim K5CAR and K5HQR. Ruth K5OPT has been pretty active on 75 mobile lately.

Frank W5HVU, has a new mobile set up in his car using an AF67 xmitter.

Dave W5FAR was trying out a new loop on the last xmitter hunt, but hasn't got it perfected yet.

Denny K9GIR is having vfo trouble with his mobile at present.

73's
Gene W5EJT

AREC FOR THE SAN ANTONIO AREA

There will be a League Official Party held on Dec. 6 and 7 in order that the various league officials may discuss their problems, and try to reach a solution by listening to the way that others have solved similar problems, and profiting by their mistakes and experiences.

If you, the members of the AREC, would like to hold a local rag chew on one of the bands, how about 7.250 Mc. on Dec. 14th at 1400 hours. If 7.250 is busy, look for an open spot close by, and give me a call. At this meeting, I would like to discuss the possibility of a meeting sometime after the first of the year, for an eyeball QSO to lay out plans for a membership drive as well as discuss any other problems which may arise between now and then.

73's
Ray W5EDZ

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Marion—W5DBN Don—K5CYJ

DX

Ex-San Antonio W5OEN, Chat, is now in Formosa and active as BV 1 USB on 20 CW. He is anxious to work stations back here. Look for him in the AM.

W5LGG, Len, has been quite active lately. New ones include FF8AC/GN; VP2's: LO, KO, GD, GL, SH, SK; CEOAC; BV1USB; HSIC; a UD6 and has heard AP2X, OY8RJ, and ZS9M. The latter is on Sat. from noon to 2 p.m. CST on 20 CW. Len is up to 205 confirmed and has all the cards for WPX. He was recently awarded the V.E.R.O.N. and Munich certitficates.

W5UX, the current top San Antonio DXer, is up to 240 confirmed. He recently worked a station singing FW8AS which is making him wonder. Bob recently put up a new 15 meter beam.

W5HHE is still knocking them off. Got a UD6 and VU2AJ as well as several others recently.

Hope you had good luck in the CQ DX CW contest which is coming up next week end as this is being written. BCNU. 73

Derwin, W5LUU

GUTTER DOPE

The ghosts and goblins were busy last Halloween night but so were the characters that showed up at the Chastains' house on that eventful night. Wiches, Pirates, Bunnies, Clowns, Hillbillies, Fortune Tellers, Hunchbacks, etc., just to mention a few, were the order of the evening. Some poor woman got lost, and wound up at the party, and I guess she is a Mother by now. Everyone was masked, so her identity remains a mystery. (But W50ZQ stole the show.)

Frank W5HVU is moving to Houston by the time this paper goes to press, so we would like to take this opportunity to say so-long and we will be working you on 40.

We are not taking any more bets on Willard finishing his Apache xmitter, as he is at the point where it says put the 6146's in the sockets. That just goes to show you what a man can do if he just puts himself to it.

There are really going to be some flashy looking hams in this neck of the woods shortly, if what we hear on the grape-vine bears fruit. I hope it won't turn out to be lemons. There are supposed to be some pretty jackets making the rounds with S. A. Radio Club and their call signs on them. I hear you can get them for a very reasonable fee. More about this later.

Congratulations to Cal, W5LFM, for articles in both CQ and QST for November. Very interesting and informative and we sure enjoyed reading them, Cal.

Pierre

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